



# County of San Diego

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

### PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES HEALTH SERVICES COMPLEX

3851 ROSECRANS, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92110  
(619) 531-5800 FAX (619) 542-4186

NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE  
DIRECTOR

WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D., M.P.H.  
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

Emergency Medical Care Committee  
Linda Rosenberg, Chair  
c/o Emergency Medical Services  
6255 Mission Gorge Road  
San Diego, CA 92120  
(619) 285-6429 Fax: (619) 285-6531

Epidemiology & Immunization Services  
Emergency & Disaster Medical Services  
HIV, STD and Hepatitis  
Maternal, Child and Family Health Services  
Public Health Laboratory  
PH Nursing  
Border Health  
TB Control & Refugee Health  
Vital Records

### MISSION STATEMENT

**“As advisors to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, the Mission of the Emergency Medical Care Committee is to be an advocate for the community through the development of strategies for continuous improvement of the emergency medical services system.”**

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) MEETING

#### Minutes

Thursday, January 24, 2013

#### Members Present

Abbott, Stephen – District Five  
Broyles, R.N., Linda – Co. Paramedics Agency Committee  
Carlson, R.N., Sharon – Hospital Assoc. of SD/Imp Counties  
Green, R.N., Katy – District One  
Harvel, Lt. Christine – Law Enforcement  
Jacoby, M.D., Jake – District Four  
Marugg, Jim – S.D. County Paramedics Association  
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District Two  
Ponce, Cruz – American Red Cross  
Rice, Mike – Ambulance Association of San Diego  
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses Association  
Rosenberger, R.N., Wendy – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators

#### Vacant Positions

League of California Cities  
Military Agencies  
San Diego County Medical Society  
San Diego Emergency Physicians' Society

#### In Attendance

Foreman, Kelly – Mercy Air  
Lorek, Kirstin – Sheriff Emergency Planning  
Overcast, Mike - American Medical  
Emergency Xpedition (AMEX),  
Wells, R.N., Christine – Scripps Health  
Association

#### County Staff

Flores, Carlos  
Metz, Marcy  
Pate, R.N., Rebecca

#### Recorder

Wolchko, Janet I.

### I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linda Rosenberg, Chair, brought the meeting to order at 9:07 am. Attendees introduced themselves.

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS**

There was one public comment request submitted. Mr. Mike Overcast, American Medical Emergency Xpedition (AMEX), spoke regarding transborder medical evacuations, injuries from desert off-road races held in Mexico and their impact on medical transports.

Corporate offices that are responsible for the races are now based in San Diego. The new owners name is Roger Norman. Mr. Overcast mentioned that transport billing issues with injuries from the Baja off-road races held in Mexico should be directed to Mr. Roger Norman.

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion was made by Steve Abbott, seconded by Sharon Carlson to approve the EMCC minutes from November 29, 2012 as corrected. Motion carried.**

## **IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Nominations for the EMCC Chair and Vice-Chair positions were presented.

**Mary Meadows-Pitt made a motion to nominate Mike Rice for EMCC Chair, the motion was seconded by Linda Rosenberg. Motion carried.**

**Linda Rosenberg made a motion to nominate Linda Broyles for EMCC Vice-Chair, Katy Green seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Mike Rice as EMCC Chair and/or Linda Broyles as EMCC Vice-Chair will preside over the 2013 EMCC meetings.

## **V. STANDING SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Prehospital/Hospital – Policy review and approval**

Linda Broyles, Prehospital/Hospital Chair, reported that the subcommittee reviewed the following policies:

- S-830, Ambulance provider's Permit Application Process
- B-833, Ground Ambulance Vehicle Requirements.

The two policies will return to the subcommittee after further review by the Ambulance Association and after the Ambulance Ordinance has gone before the Board of Supervisors for approval.

### **B. Education and Research**

Education and Research Subcommittee did not meet.

### **C. Disaster/Operations**

Sharon Carlson reported the following dates for upcoming events:

- A local HPP disaster exercise is scheduled for May 30, 2013. The exercise will have a mass casualty/mass fatality scenario. A few changes made to the County Mass Fatality Plan based on how the hospitals report their fatalities during a mass fatality event will be utilized during the drill. Planning for the exercise will begin next month.
- The Sharp Healthcare Annual Disaster Expo will be held on October 5, 2013. Last year's expo was so successful that this year it will be open to the community. The expo is a chance to teach the community how to prepare for a disaster.
- The Fourth Annual HPP Disaster Partnership Conference is scheduled for July.

Cruz Ponce asked if the Indian Health clinics are included in the local disaster drill. Sharon Carlson responded that they are welcome to participate. Contact information can be given to Sharon Carlson or Les Gardina to disseminate information regarding the drill.

## **VI. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT (Marcy Metz, Chief EMS)**

- A. The number of reported influenza cases is rising, but are at expected levels in San Diego County and the State for this time of year. There have been 14 influenza related deaths in the County; most of those patients had underlying chronic conditions.

There was discussion on reactions to the flu vaccine and how many of the fatalities had received the flu vaccine.

Cruz Ponce asked about planning, triggers and staffing shelters. The County Capacity Plan has ongoing surveillance. County data elements are reported to the region, and are sent to the state. The California Department of Public Health and Emergency Management Assistance (EMA) have requested local agencies to report a number of data elements including:

- ED volumes
- Hospital bed availability
- Hospital surge strategies for patient care
- Elective surgery cancellations during high capacity times
- Implementing alternative triage sights
- Hospital diversion
- Ventilators and critical equipment needed

Hospitals should use the Capacity Plan and their own protocols to manage high volumes.

Discussion ensued on what flu symptoms have been reported and the origin of testing, rapid testing and/or clinical representation.

Mike Rice mentioned a shortage of Tamiflu in pharmacies. This year's Tamiflu distribution level was the same as last year. Cached or strategic medical stockpile supplies cannot be used unless there is a declared disaster.

- B. The California EMS Award ceremony was held in San Francisco following the December 5, 2012 EMS Commission meeting. The following EMS personnel from San Diego County were recognized during the ceremony:
  - 1. Border patrol agent, Travis Creteau, received an Inter-Service recognition award for meritorious efforts to rescue two children from a car submerged in a reservoir off Otay Lakes Road.
  - 2. Rick Rod, Rural Metro, received a meritorious service medal for his training and publications, and disaster experience.
  - 3. Gordon Anderson, AMR dispatcher, was honored for his community outreach programs including graffiti removal, oil changes for seniors, and CPR instruction.
  - 4. Reema Makani Boccia, Rural Metro, was honored for community outreach and creative initiatives.
  - 5. Clinical Excellence Awards recipients that were presented at the individuals' workplace were to: Andrew Kelly, Dustin Slikker, Garret Estevane, Jason Van Zile, Joe Taylor, Leanna Navarro, and Ryan Judson.
- C. Sporadic drug shortages continue. The most recent shortages were with prefill atropine. Agencies should continue to report any drug shortages to EMS.
- D. UCSD Hillcrest Medical Center was recognized as one of five (5) initial Comprehensive Stroke Centers by the Joint Commission. The Stroke Consortium is scheduled to meet this evening.
- E. EMSA has secured funding for three Advanced Emergency Medical Technical (AEMT) training programs in the state. One is located in San Diego. The focus is on law enforcement and tactical medicine. The training was funded with Homeland Security Grant funds.

## **VII. EMS STAFF REPORT (Marcy Metz, Chief EMS)**

- A. The California Trauma and Resuscitation Conference begins today at the Catamaran Resort Hotel in San Diego. The IV State Trauma Summit will be meeting this afternoon in conjunction with the resuscitation conference. Keynote speaker today is Dr. Backer, Director of EMS Authority, who will be presenting his vision for California EMS.
- B. The iQCS architecture team for the County and the HP contractor working with the CTO will be meeting to investigate network connectivity and latency in the performance of the iQCS system. Hospitals should continue to use QCS CEMIS. Agencies that are not experiencing any problems can continue to use iQCS.
- C. The EMS Administrators Association of California (EMSAAC) Annual Conference is scheduled for May 29-30, 2013, at the Hilton San Diego Resort & Spa. Conference information is available on the EMSAAC website. The conference theme is "Riding the Waves of EMS."
- D. EMS Commission meets in March, in Los Angeles. EMS for Children (EMS-C), STEMI and Stroke regulations are being reviewed. Pre-public comments for EMS-C ended a few

months ago; STEMI and Stroke regulations are currently out for pre-public comments and will close tomorrow.

**IX. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next EMCC meeting is February 28, 2013.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

Submitted by,

Janet I. Wolchko, Administrative Secretary III  
County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services